

Playbox Theatre

Members' Newsletter

June 2023

Annie



Huge congratulations to Juliet Vankay and all the cast, crew and creative team of 'Annie'.

The production was a wonderful success, with stunning performances from over 50 young actors who danced, sang and warmed our hearts!



The show received brilliant reviews, and applications for the Musical Theatre workshops at Playbox have gone through the roof. We're delighted to be expanding the department from September, with additional workshops opening on Monday evenings. If you'd like to find out more, or to join a waiting list, head over to the website:

<https://www.playboxtheatre.com/workshop/musical-theatre/>



<https://www.playboxtheatre.com/workshop/musical-theatre-junior/>



Juliet is already busily plotting and planning for another major musical early in 2024...watch this space.

WELCOME

Welcome to the June edition of the Playbox Theatre Newsletter.

It's been the most wonderful start to summer, with the weather being very kind for the several outdoor events that we've staged over the month.

Fundraising continues with energy and excitement, as we get closer and closer to reaching our target to replace the roof over the front of house area of the theatre, and 'Annie' has played to sell-out houses.

Thank you so much to all of you who continue to make Playbox a hive of creativity!

Emily Quash

Artistic Director

Next edition due July 2023
if you have news to share email ~ info@playboxtheatre.com

WILDFLOWER GARDEN

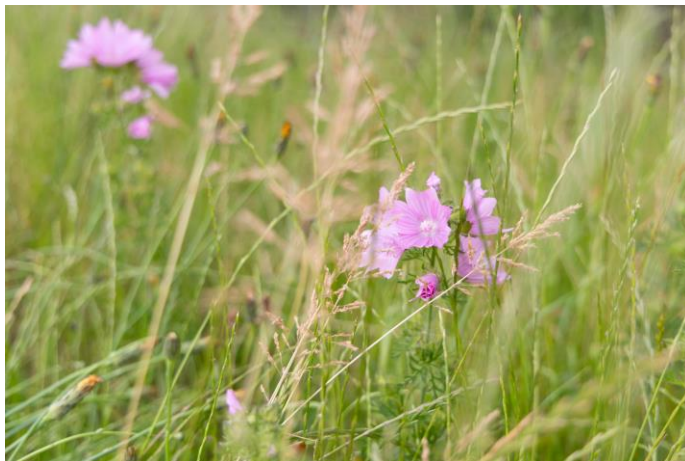
On Wednesday 21st June, we officially opened our *wildflower garden*, which has been funded by *Clean Planet Foundation*.

Making sure that we are always seeking effective and creative ways to look after our world is always on the Playbox agenda, so we were delighted to be approached by *CPF* to create a little haven for wildlife at the back of The Dream Factory.

Fairways Gardeners have worked hard to prepare the ground, plant hedging and sow 1,000s meadow and wildflower seeds and we're looking forward to seeing the space developing in the years to come.

Fantastically, on the day of the launch, the very first flowers appeared – beautiful red poppies.

We hope that this will be a space for flowers, plants and wildlife to thrive and we look forward to developing our relationship with *Clean Planet Foundation* in the future.



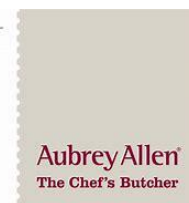
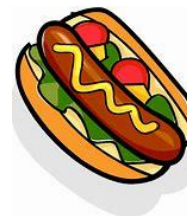
MIDSUMMER REVELS

Our annual *Midsummer Revels* were better than ever this year, with beautiful sunshine beating down as the BBQ was fired up!

Every year, on the longest day, we stage a special celebration outdoors at The Dream Factory, and this was one of our favourites.

With another fabulous *Aubrey Allen* barbecue, we were treated to a fantastic performance by *The Doomsday Band*, followed by an exquisite revisit to *Act V of A Midsummer Night's Dream*, directed by Mary King and revived from her Christmas production.

Over 100 Playbox families joined the event which was truly special.



AN EVENING WITH SOPHIE TURNER

Sunday 2nd July was another very special event at Playbox, with alumna, Sophie Turner, coming back to support our *Raise The Roof* fundraising.

Audiences were treated to a 'in conversation' with Sophie, who was being interviewed by *Elle Magazine's* Culture Director, *Lena De Casparis*. Sophie talked about her childhood, her time at Playbox, how life has changed since *Game Of Thrones* and things that she has taken from her time at Playbox that are still of value to her today.

It was a really lovely evening, with the fundraising further supported by *Shakespeare Kitchen* and *Aubrey Allen*, who provided exquisite canapes and scrumptious barbecue respectively.

Thank you so much to everyone involved in this remarkable event, which was a highlight in our year.



Shakespeare Kitchen
Catering & Events

ALUMNI NEWS

STUART GOLDSMITH

Stuart was a member of Kenilworth Playbox during 1990s, and he's now a celebrated comedian.

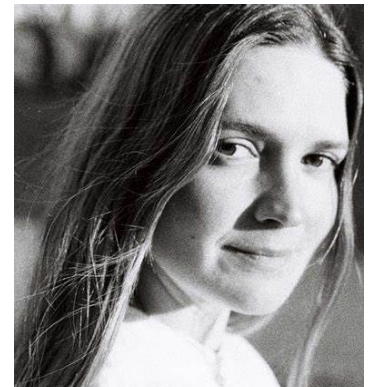
Stuart is set to return to Edinburgh Festival this summer with his new show, *SPOILERS*, which plays at *Monkey Barrel*. Highly recommend!



LYDIA CLOWES

Lydia was part of the Warwick Centre for many years and was exceptional in the musical theatre department.

Lydia is a professional musician and singer and has recently featured as one of the 'mermaids' in *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, which opened at cinemas earlier this year.



CAMERON WALKER

Cameron was part of Stratford Playbox throughout his entire childhood, leaving to study journalism at Nottingham University.

He is now the Royal Correspondent for GB News and delivered magnificent reporting over the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II, and subsequently the coronation of King Charles III.



LOOKING AHEAD.....

Summer Holiday Projects are just around the corner! Three action-packed weeks of creativity for all ages. Head to the Playbox website to see what's on offer, and to book in <https://www.playboxtheatre.com/holiday-projects/>